

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
TYLER DIVISION**

Personalweb Technologies LLC

Plaintiff,

v.

Amazon.com, Inc.;  
Amazon Web Services LLC; and,  
Dropbox, Inc.

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 6:11-cv-658

JURY TRIAL REQUESTED

**COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT**

Plaintiff PersonalWeb Technologies LLC files this Complaint for Patent Infringement against Amazon.com, Inc.; Amazon Web Services LLC; and Dropbox, Inc. (collectively, “Defendants”) and states as follows:

**THE PARTIES**

1. Plaintiff PersonalWeb Technologies LLC (“PersonalWeb” or “Plaintiff”) is a limited liability company organized under the laws of Texas with its principal place of business at 112 E. Line Street, Suite 204, Tyler, Texas, 75702. PersonalWeb was founded in August 2010 and is in the business of developing and distributing software based on its technology assets.

2. PersonalWeb protects its proprietary business applications and operations through a portfolio of patents that it owns, including 13 issued and pending United States patents. PersonalWeb is assignee and owner of eight patents at issue in this action: U.S. Patent Nos. 5,978,791, 6,415,280, 6,928,442, 7,802,310, 7,945,539, 7,945,544, 7,949,662, and 8,001,096.

3. Defendant Amazon.com, Inc. (“Amazon.com”) is a Delaware Corporation with its principal place of business at 410 Terry Avenue North, Seattle, Washington 98109-5210. Amazon.com has appointed Corporation Services Company, 300 Deschutes Way SW, Ste. 304, Tumwater, WA 98501-7719, as its agent for service of process.

4. Defendant Amazon Web Services LLC (“Amazon Web”) is a Delaware Corporation with its principal place of business at 1200 12th Ave. South, Seattle, WA, 98144. Amazon Web has appointed Corporation Services Company, 300 Deschutes Way SW, Ste. 304, Tumwater, WA 98501-7719, as its agent for service of process. In this Complaint, Amazon.com and Amazon Web are collectively referred to as “Amazon”.

5. Defendant Dropbox, Inc. (“Dropbox”) is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Delaware with its principal place of business at 760 Market Street, Suite 1150, San Francisco, CA 94102. Dropbox has appointed Amir Oren, 760 Market Street, Suite 1150, San Francisco, CA 94102-2306, as its agent for service of process.

6. Amazon and Dropbox make and distribute web-based software products, and provide web-based services to consumers in the United States and, more particularly, in the Eastern District of Texas.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

7. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, Title 35, United States Code. Jurisdiction as to these claims is conferred on this Court by 35 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).

8. Venue is proper in the Eastern District of Texas under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391 and 1400(b). PersonalWeb is a limited liability company incorporated in Smith County, Texas with its principal place of business in Tyler, Texas.

9. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Amazon and Dropbox. Amazon and Dropbox have conducted and continue to conduct business within the State of Texas. Amazon and Dropbox, directly or through intermediaries (including distributors, retailers, and others), ships, distributes, offers for sale, sells, and advertises its products and offers its services in the United States, the State of Texas, and the Eastern District of Texas. Amazon and Dropbox have purposefully and voluntarily sold infringing software and performed infringing services with the expectation that they will be purchased and used by consumers in the Eastern District of Texas. These infringing products and services have been and continue to be purchased and used by consumers in the Eastern District of Texas. Amazon and Dropbox have committed acts of patent infringement within the State of Texas and, more particularly, within the Eastern District of Texas.

10. Amazon and Dropbox are properly joined in this action because (1) PersonalWeb's right to relief is asserted against the parties jointly and severally, (2) certain infringing acts of Amazon and Dropbox arise out of the same transaction, occurrence or series of transactions or occurrences relating to the making, using, offering for sale, and selling of the same accused products and providing the same accused services in this action, and (3) questions of fact common to Amazon and Dropbox will arise in the action. Specifically, Amazon Web is a wholly owned subsidiary of Amazon Web and owns the infringing Amazon Web products and services. Further, Dropbox's infringing web-based file hosting service uses Amazon's infringing S3 storage system to store files.

#### **PERSONALWEB BACKGROUND**

11. PersonalWeb is in the business of developing and distributing software based on its technology assets. PersonalWeb draws on its proprietary technology to innovate and

develop software products, including a social learning platform and digital content management system.

12. PersonalWeb's products include a product referred to as "StudyPods...where social meets study™", a new social learning platform that enables students to connect, collaborate and share academic knowledge with each other at their own university or colleges worldwide. PersonalWeb's also is developing enterprise solutions, including proprietary technology assets utilizing natural language processing and semantic analysis to search for and deliver relevant content available on the Internet to users.

13. PersonalWeb also is developing the Global File Registry ("GFR") digital content management system, an online copyright protection and crime prevention tool that is a consolidated database containing unique identifiers of millions of infringing files captured and collected on behalf of multiple content owners and interested parties.

14. PersonalWeb protects its proprietary business applications and operations through a portfolio of patents that it owns, including 13 issued and pending United States patents.

**INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 5,978,791**

15. On November 2, 1999, United States Patent No. 5,978,791 (the "'791 patent") was duly and legally issued for an invention entitled "Data Processing System Using Substantially Unique Identifiers to Identify Data Items, Whereby Data Items Have the Same Identifiers." PersonalWeb was assigned the '791 patent and continues to hold all rights and interest in the '791 patent. A true and correct copy of the '791 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

16. Amazon has infringed and continues to infringe the '791 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the following products and services: Amazon Simple Storage Service (S3) and Amazon ElastiCache. Amazon further contributes to

and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale these infringing products and services. Amazon is liable for its infringement of the '791 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

17. Dropbox has infringed and continues to infringe the '791 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the Dropbox web-based file hosting service. Dropbox contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale this infringing service. Dropbox is liable for its infringement of the '791 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

18. Defendants Amazon's and Dropbox's acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb, and PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Defendants the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial. Defendants' infringement of PersonalWeb's exclusive rights under the '791 patent will continue to damage PersonalWeb, causing irreparable harm for which there is no adequate remedy at law, unless enjoined by this Court.

**INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 6,415,280**

19. On July 2, 2002, United States Patent No. 6,415,280 (the "'280 patent") was duly and legally issued for an invention entitled "Identifying and Requesting Data in Network Using Identifiers Which Are Based On Contents of Data." PersonalWeb was assigned the '280 patent and continues to hold all rights and interest in the '280 patent. A true and correct copy of the '280 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

20. Amazon has infringed and continues to infringe the '280 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the following products and services: Amazon Simple Storage Service (S3) and Amazon ElastiCache. Amazon further contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale these infringing

products and services. Amazon is liable for its infringement of the '280 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

21. Dropbox has infringed and continues to infringe the '280 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the Dropbox web-based file hosting service. Dropbox contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale this infringing service. Dropbox is liable for its infringement of the '280 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

22. Defendants Amazon's and Dropbox's acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb, and PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Defendants the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial. Defendants' infringement of PersonalWeb's exclusive rights under the '280 patent will continue to damage PersonalWeb, causing irreparable harm for which there is no adequate remedy at law, unless enjoined by this Court.

**INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 6,928,442**

23. On Aug 9, 2005, United States Patent No. 6,928,442 (the "'442 patent'") was duly and legally issued for an invention entitled "Enforcement and Policing of Licensed Content Using Content-based Identifiers." PersonalWeb was assigned the '442 patent and continues to hold all rights and interest in the '442 patent. A true and correct copy of the '442 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

24. Amazon has infringed and continues to infringe the '442 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the following products and services: Amazon Simple Storage Service (S3) and Amazon ElastiCache. Amazon further contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale these infringing

products and services. Amazon is liable for its infringement of the '442 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

25. Dropbox has infringed and continues to infringe the '442 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the Dropbox web-based file hosting service. Dropbox contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale this infringing service. Dropbox is liable for its infringement of the '442 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

26. Defendants Amazon's and Dropbox's acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb, and PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Defendants the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial. Defendants' infringement of PersonalWeb's exclusive rights under the '442 patent will continue to damage PersonalWeb, causing irreparable harm for which there is no adequate remedy at law, unless enjoined by this Court.

**INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 7,802,310**

27. On September 21, 2010, United States Patent No. 7,802,310 (the "'310 patent") was duly and legally issued for an invention entitled "Controlling Access to Data in a Data Processing System." PersonalWeb was assigned the '310 patent and continues to hold all rights and interest in the '310 patent. A true and correct copy of the '310 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit D.

28. Amazon has infringed and continues to infringe the '310 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the following products and services: Amazon Simple Storage Service (S3) and Amazon ElastiCache. Amazon further contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale these infringing

products and services. Amazon is liable for its infringement of the '310 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

29. Dropbox has infringed and continues to infringe the '310 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the Dropbox web-based file hosting service. Dropbox contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale this infringing service. Dropbox is liable for its infringement of the '310 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

30. Defendants Amazon's and Dropbox's acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb, and PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Defendants the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial. Defendants' infringement of PersonalWeb's exclusive rights under the '310 patent will continue to damage PersonalWeb, causing irreparable harm for which there is no adequate remedy at law, unless enjoined by this Court.

**INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 7,945,539**

31. On May 17, 2011, United States Patent No. 7,945,539 (the "'539 patent") was duly and legally issued for an invention entitled "Distributing and Accessing Data in a Data Processing System." PersonalWeb was assigned the '539 patent and continues to hold all rights and interest in the '539 patent. A true and correct copy of the '539 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit E.

32. Amazon has infringed and continues to infringe the '539 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the following products and services: Amazon Simple Storage Service (S3) and Amazon ElastiCache. Amazon further contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale these infringing



products and services. Amazon is liable for its infringement of the '539 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

33. Dropbox has infringed and continues to infringe the '539 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the Dropbox web-based file hosting service. Dropbox contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale this infringing service. Dropbox is liable for its infringement of the '539 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

34. Defendants Amazon's and Dropbox's acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb, and PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Defendants the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial. Defendants' infringement of PersonalWeb's exclusive rights under the '539 patent will continue to damage PersonalWeb, causing irreparable harm for which there is no adequate remedy at law, unless enjoined by this Court.

**INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 7,945,544**

35. On May 17, 2011, United States Patent No. 7,945,544 (the "'544 patent'") was duly and legally issued for an invention entitled "Similarity-Based Access Control of Data in a Data Processing System." PersonalWeb was assigned the '544 patent and continues to hold all rights and interest in the '544 patent. A true and correct copy of the '544 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit F.

36. Amazon has infringed and continues to infringe the '544 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the following products and services: Amazon Simple Storage Service (S3) and Amazon ElastiCache. Amazon further contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale these infringing

products and services. Amazon is liable for its infringement of the '544 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

37. Dropbox has infringed and continues to infringe the '544 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the Dropbox web-based file hosting service. Dropbox contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale this infringing service. Dropbox is liable for its infringement of the '544 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

38. Defendants Amazon's and Dropbox's acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb, and PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Defendants the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial. Defendants' infringement of PersonalWeb's exclusive rights under the '544 patent will continue to damage PersonalWeb, causing irreparable harm for which there is no adequate remedy at law, unless enjoined by this Court.

#### **INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 7,949,662**

39. On May 24, 2011, United States Patent No. 7,949,662 (the "'662 patent'") was duly and legally issued for an invention entitled "De-duplication of Data in a Data Processing System." PersonalWeb was assigned the '662 patent and continues to hold all rights and interest in the '662 patent. A true and correct copy of the '662 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit G.

40. Amazon has infringed and continues to infringe the '662 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the following products and services: Amazon Simple Storage Service (S3) and Amazon ElastiCache. Amazon further contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale these infringing products and services. Amazon is liable for its infringement of the '662 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

41. Dropbox has infringed and continues to infringe the '662 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the Dropbox web-based file hosting service. Dropbox contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale this infringing service. Dropbox is liable for its infringement of the '662 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

42. Defendants Amazon's and Dropbox's acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb, and PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Defendants the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial. Defendants' infringement of PersonalWeb's exclusive rights under the '662 patent will continue to damage PersonalWeb, causing irreparable harm for which there is no adequate remedy at law, unless enjoined by this Court.

**INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 8,001,096**

43. On August 16, 2011, United States Patent No. 8,001,096 (the "'096 patent") was duly and legally issued for an invention entitled "Computer File System Using Content-Dependent File Identifiers." PersonalWeb was assigned the '096 patent and continues to hold all rights and interest in the '096 patent. A true and correct copy of the '096 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit H.

44. Amazon has infringed and continues to infringe the '096 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the following products and services: Amazon Simple Storage Service (S3) and Amazon ElastiCache. Amazon further contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale these infringing products and services. Amazon is liable for its infringement of the '096 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

45. Dropbox has infringed and continues to infringe the '096 patent by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of the Dropbox web-based file hosting service. Dropbox contributes to and induces others to manufacture, use, sell, import, and/or offer for sale this infringing service. Dropbox is liable for its infringement of the '096 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

46. Defendants Amazon's and Dropbox's acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb, and PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Defendants the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial. Defendants' infringement of PersonalWeb's exclusive rights under the '096 patent will continue to damage PersonalWeb, causing irreparable harm for which there is no adequate remedy at law, unless enjoined by this Court.

**COUNT ONE—PATENT INFRINGEMENT AGAINST AMAZON**

47. Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-45 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

48. Amazon has infringed and/or continues to infringe one or more claims of the Patents-in-Suit as set forth above. Amazon is liable for direct infringement, as well as indirect infringement by way of inducement and/or contributory infringement, for each of the Patents-in-Suit pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271 (a), (b), (c), and/or (f) as set forth above. For PersonalWeb's claims of indirect infringement, Amazon's end-user customers and consultants are direct infringers of the Patents-in-Suit.

49. Amazon's acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb. PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Amazon the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result of Amazon's wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial. In addition, the

infringing acts and practices of Amazon has caused, is causing, and, unless such acts and practices are enjoined by the Court, will continue to cause immediate and irreparable harm to PersonalWeb for which there is no adequate remedy at law, and for which PersonalWeb is entitled to injunctive relief under 35 U.S.C. § 283.

50. Amazon has received actual notice of infringement.

**COUNT TWO—PATENT INFRINGEMENT AGAINST DROPBOX**

51. Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-49 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

52. Dropbox has infringed and/or continues to infringe one or more claims of the Patents-in-Suit as set forth above. Dropbox is liable for direct infringement, as well as indirect infringement by way of inducement and/or contributory infringement, for each of the Patents-in-Suit pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271 (a), (b), (c), and/or (f) as set forth above. For PersonalWeb's claims of indirect infringement, Dropbox's end-user customers and consultants are direct infringers of the Patents-in-Suit.

53. Dropbox's acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb. PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Dropbox the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result of Dropbox's wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial. In addition, the infringing acts and practices of Dropbox has caused, is causing, and, unless such acts and practices are enjoined by the Court, will continue to cause immediate and irreparable harm to PersonalWeb for which there is no adequate remedy at law, and for which PersonalWeb is entitled to injunctive relief under 35 U.S.C. § 283.

54. Dropbox has received actual notice of infringement.

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

PersonalWeb hereby demands a jury for all issues so triable.

**PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, PersonalWeb prays for judgment as follows:

1. that Defendants have infringed, directly and/or indirectly, one or more claims of the Patents-in-Suit;
2. requiring Defendants to pay PersonalWeb's actual damages;
3. requiring Defendants to pay PersonalWeb supplemental damages for any continuing post-verdict infringement up until entry of the final judgment, together with an accounting as needed;
4. requiring Defendants to pay to PersonalWeb pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on the damages awarded at the maximum rate provided by law;
5. requiring Defendants to pay to PersonalWeb all costs of this action
6. requiring Defendants to pay attorneys' fees under 35 U.S.C. § 285;
7. enjoining Defendants, their agents, employees, representatives, successors and assigns, and those acting in privity or in concert with them from further infringement of the Patents-in-Suit;
8. in the event a final injunction is not awarded, awarding a compulsory ongoing royalty; and
9. such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable.

DATED: December 8, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

**McKOOL SMITH, P.C.**

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